



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: May 24, 2004
Release Number: 2004-08

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SBA Honors Milford Businesswomen for Her Service to the Elderly of Connecticut

Hartford—Lesley Mills, owner of five Griswold Special Care healthcare facilities located in New Haven, Hartford, Waterbury, Meriden and New London, has been named Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for the Connecticut Region.

Lesley, a resident of Milford, is awarded for her many years of service, commitment and dedication to the betterment of healthcare and services to the elderly and infirm in Connecticut. Lesley is also awarded for her role as an advocate for women and empowering them to attain their goals.

Griswold Special Care places a significant emphasis on affordable care offering tailor-made schedules, live-in service and the highest quality professional caregiver at an affordable cost. Mills' offices have achieved the highest ratings from Special Care Inc, and have been selected as the exclusive provider by both the Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Associations' respite programs.

Mills takes an active role in advocating for women in business and is currently serving as the CT president of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO); she is a founding member of WOPAC (Women Organizing Women); she established *Griswold Life Tales* which provides grants to aspiring writers who spend time with the elderly or terminally ill and then create written legacies of their lives; she was the first woman to be named a member of the New Haven Connecticut Rotary Club and has received many honors for her dedication and hard work. Lesley also established Special Care Foundation, a non-profit organization that grants short-term funding to qualified individuals who would otherwise be unable to afford care.

Lesley and all SBW 2004 award recipients will be honored on Thursday, June 3, 2004 at The Belvedere (formerly Septembers), in New Haven, CT. If you would like more information on this event, or next year's nominations contact Debra Dillon at (860) 240-4700 ext. 242.

A complete list of the 2004 Small Business Week award recipients is attached.

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2004 SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AWARD WINNERS

Small Business Person of the Year

Lesley Mills

Griswold Special Care

New Haven, Hartford, Waterbury, Meriden, New London, CT

Nominated by

Richard Blumenthal, Attorney General

State of Connecticut

REGIONAL AWARD WINNERS

Minority Small Business Advocate
of the Year

Rafael Collazo

CT Small Bus. Development Center
Hartford, CT

Nominated by

Zaiga L. Antonetti

CT Small Bus. Development Center

Women in Business Advocate
of the Year

Barbara Potopowicz

Perm. Comm. on the Status of Women
Hartford, CT

Nominated by

Rose E. Bednarz

Gateway Community College

Small Business Journalist
of the Year

Mitchell Young

Business New Haven
New Haven, CT

Nominated by

Rose E. Bednarz

Gateway Community College

DISTRICT AWARD WINNERS

Veteran Small Business
Advocate of the Year

Charles C. Young

CT Department of Labor
New London, CT

Nominated by

Lou Kennedy

US Department of Labor

Financial Services Advocate
of the Year

Edward E. Cull

Citizens Bank Connecticut
Middletown, CT

Nominated by

John Rosevear

Citizens Financial Group

Small Business Exporter
of the Year

Raymond Browne

David Monighetti

Wyrepak Industries, Inc.
Middletown, CT

Nominated by

Sandra K. Weber

Hudson United Bank